

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 7599
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10021235-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Inventor(s): Phillip W. Barth

Serial No.: 10/670,551

Examiner: N. Drew Richards

NOV 05 2004

Filing Date: 09-25-2003

Group Art Unit: 2816

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAKING A TENSILE DIAPHRAGM WITH AN INSERT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
(X) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Mail stop Non-Fee Amendments")
() Other: _____ (fee \$ _____)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$88	\$ 0
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$300	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$430.00	3RD MONTH \$980.00	4TH MONTH \$1530.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date of Facsimile: 11-05-2004

Typed Name: Donna Macedo

Signature: Donna Macedo

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip W. Barth

By Bret Field

Bret Field for Timothy Joyce

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 37,620

Date: 11-05-2004

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington VA 22313-1450	Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	10021236-1 5493
	First Named Inventor	Phillip W. Barth
	Application Number	10/670,551
	Filing Date	September 25, 2003
	Group Art Unit	2815
	Examiner Name	N. Drew Richards
	Title	Apparatus and Method for Making a Tensile Diaphragm with an Insert

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the office communication dated October 5, 2004.

In the above referenced office communication, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement, requiring the election of the claims of either:

Group I, i.e., Claims 1-10; or

Group II, i.e., Claims 11-20;

for further prosecution in this application.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I with traverse.

The Applicants also respectfully urge the Examiner to rejoin the claims of Group II with the elected claims of Group I for examination in this application for the following reasons.

The MPEP allows an Examiner to examine otherwise patentably distinct sets of claims if to so would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner. M.P.E.P. § 8.03 states that:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

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In the present case, the claims of Group II include elements found in the claims of Group I. As such, the search for the claims of Group I will find relevant prior art relating to the claims of Group II.

Accordingly, little, if any, additional searching should be required for the claims of Group II, and therefore the examination of the claims of Group II together with the claims of elected Group I should impose little, if any, additional burden on the Examiner.

As such, examining the claims of Group II and the claims of elected Group I together in the present application clearly does not impose an undue or serious burden on the Examiner. In the absence of such an undue or serious burden, the Examiner is clearly instructed by the MPEP to examine the entire application. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin the claims of Group II with the claims of elected Group I and to examine all the claims together in the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

Respectfully submitted,

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: 11.5.04

By: 
Bret E. Field
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